

NIEREMBERGIA PLANT NAMED 'SUNNIPARIBU'

Botanical/commercial classification:

*Nierembergia hybrida*/Nierembergia Plant

5 Varietal denomination: cv. Sunniparibu

## BACKGROUND OF THE VARIETY

10 The present invention relates to a new and distinct variety of Nierembergia plant originated from crossing of a Nierembergia hybrid variety called 'NB3' as the female parent and 'NSB4' as the male parent. 'Sunniparibu' is a vegetative propagated variety.

## 15 Progress

20 The female parent 'NB3' used in the crossing of 'Sunniparibu' is a strain of our breeding lines grown at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan, having a tufted, bushy shape. The plant height is lower than 'Sunniparibu'. The flowers are single and medium size, having strong purple with moderate purple towards the center.

25 The male parent 'NSB4' used in the crossing of 'Sunniparibu' is a strain of our breeding lines grown in Omi, Shiga-ken, Japan, having erect growth habit. The plant height is about the same as 'Sunniparibu'. The flowers are single and large, having light purple with strong purple towards the center.

30 In July 1995, crossing of 'NB3' (unpatented) as the female parent and 'NSB4' (unpatented) as the male parent was conducted at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan, and seedlings were obtained. In October 1996, one seedling  
35 was selected in view of its growth habit, flower size and color. That seedling was propagated by cutting, and a trial was carried out by flower potting in the glasshouse

and field from May to October 1997, at Yokaichi-shi,  
Shiga-ken, Japan. The botanical characteristics of that  
plant were then examined, using similar varieties  
'Sunnicobu' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 13,934) and  
5 'Montebranco' for comparison. As a result, it was  
concluded that this Nierembergia plant is distinguishable  
from any other variety, whose existence is known to us,  
and is uniform and stable in its characteristics. Then  
the new variety of Nierembergia plant was named  
10 'Sunniparibu'.

In the following description, the color-coding is in  
accordance with the Horticultural Colour Chart of The  
Royal Horticultural Society, London, England (R.H.S.  
15 Colour Chart).

#### SUMMARY OF THE VARIETY

This new variety is unlike any Nierembergia  
20 commercially available as evidenced by the following  
unique combinations of characteristics.

1. Erect growth habit with many branches.
2. Having a great profusion of blooms with the  
entire plant remaining in bloom for a considerable period  
25 of time.
3. The flowers are single and large. The petal  
color is generally strong purple (R.H.S. 86B) with  
moderate purple (R.H.S. 83A) towards the center. Yellow  
eye presents at the bottom of corolla throat.
- 30 4. The plant has a high resistance to rain, cold,  
heat and disease.

The new variety 'Sunniparibu' differs from the  
similar variety 'Sunnicobu' in the following points.

- 35 1. The growth habit of 'Sunniparibu' is erect.  
That of 'Sunnicobu' is tufted.
2. The plant of 'Sunniparibu' is larger than that

of 'Sunnicobu'.

3. The leaf of 'Sunniparibu' is larger than that of 'Sunnicobu'.

5 4. The flower diameter of 'Sunniparibu' is larger than that of 'Sunnicobu'.

5. The petal color of 'Sunniparibu' is generally strong purple (R.H.S. 86B), but toward the center becomes moderate purple (R.H.S. 83A). That of 'Sunnicobu' is generally light purple (R.H.S. 85B) with moderate purple (R.H.S. N88C) towards the center.

10 6. The rain, heat, disease resistance of 'Sunniparibu' is stronger than that of 'Sunnicobu'.

The new variety 'Sunniparibu' differs from the similar variety 'Montebranco' in the following points.

15 1. The growth habit of 'Sunniparibu' is erect. That of 'Montebranco' is tufted.

2. The plant of 'Sunniparibu' is larger than that of 'Montebranco'.

20 3. The leaf of 'Sunniparibu' is larger than that of 'Montebranco'.

4. The flower diameter of 'Sunniparibu' is larger than that of 'Montebranco'.

25 5. The petal color of 'Sunniparibu' is strong purple (R.H.S. 86B) with moderate purple (R.H.S. 83A) towards the center. That of 'Montebranco' is yellowish white (R.H.S. 155D).

30 6. The rain, heat, disease resistance and cold hardiness of 'Sunniparibu' are stronger than those of 'Montebranco'.

This new variety of Nierembergia Plant 'Sunniparibu' was asexually reproduced by the use of cuttings at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan, and homogeneity and stability thereof were confirmed. The instant plant retains its distinctive characteristics and reproduces true to type in successive generations.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

5 The depicted plants had been reproduced by the use  
of cuttings and were photographed during September 1998  
while growing in 30 cm pot at an age of approximately 10  
months at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan.

10 FIG. 1 illustrates a typical plant of the new  
variety of Nierembergia plant 'Sunniparibu' growing in a  
pot.

FIG. 2 illustrates a close-up view of foliage and  
blossomes of the new variety of Nierembergia plant  
'Sunniparibu'.  
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#### DESCRIPTION OF THE VARIETY

The botanical characteristics of the new and  
distinct variety of Nierembergia plant named  
20 'Sunniparibu' are as follows when observed during  
September at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan, at an age of  
approximately 10 months.

##### Plant:

Growth habit. - Erect.  
25 Height. - Approximately 29 cm.  
Spread. - Approximately 28 cm.

##### Stem:

Thickness. - Approximately 2.3 mm.  
Color. - R.H.S. 146A (moderate olive green).  
30 Branching. - Abundant.  
Pubescence. - Present.  
Length of internode. - Approximately 9 mm.

##### Leaf:

Whole shape. - Lanceolate.  
35 Length. - Approximately 35 mm.  
Width. - Approximately 4.5 mm.  
Color of upper side. - R.H.S. 146A (moderate olive

green).

Pubescence. - Absent.

Attachment angle to stem. - Horizontal.

Petiole. - Absent.

5 Flower:

Facing direction. - Upward.

Type. - Single.

Shape. - Rotate, with five-fissures.

Diameter. - Approximately 38 mm.

10 Shape of petal tip. - Obtuse. Considerable variation in the shape and size.

Petal margin. - Entire, occasionally sinuate.

Length of corolla tube. - Approximately 16 mm.

15 Color of petal. - Upper side: R.H.S. 86B (strong purple) with R.H.S. 83A (moderate purple) towards the center. Reverse side: R.H.S. 85B (light purple).

Eye color. - R.H.S. 6B (brilliant greenish yellow).

Size of eye color. - Approximately 4.0 mm.

20 Outside color of corolla tube. - R.H.S. 85B (light purple).

Flowering habit. - When planted in April in Japan, the blooming period extends from June to October.

Pistil:

Number. - 1.

25 Color of stigma. - R.H.S. 144A (Strong yellow green).

Stamen:

Number. - 5.

Type. - Epigynocious.

Color of anther. - R.H.S. 12A (vivid yellow).

30 Hardiness:

Winter. - Excellent.

Rain. - Excellent.

Heat. - Excellent.

Resistance:

35 Disease. - Excellent.

Insect. - Good. Under the dry condition, may have some damage by the spider mite.

This new variety of Nierembergia plant 'Sunniparibu' is most suitable for flower bedding and potting.